



**2015**

**SOFTBALL MANAGER'S  
HANDBOOK**





A lot of time, energy and resources go into making the adult softball program in Arden Hills an enjoyable experience for everyone. Our hope is that you will have a great time playing recreational softball. Along the way you may have a comment, question or concern. Please feel free to contact Arden Hills Parks & Recreation. Evaluation is an ongoing process in attempting to improve the overall program. New ideas are always welcome.

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Arden Hills Park & Recreation aims to provide the best service possible! This includes everyone involved in the softball leagues, from umpires to park attendants.

Enjoy a great season!

# 2015 Softball Manager Handbook

## Table of Contents

Manager’s Duties .....	3
Sportsmanship.....	3-5
Eligibility .....	5-6
Rosters.....	6
Playing Rules .....	6-11
Behavior .....	11
Safety .....	12
Protests.....	12-13
Park Regulations .....	14
Team Disbandment .....	14
Weather Policy.....	14
Standings & Awards .....	15
Post-Season.....	16-17
Inter-League Movement.....	17
Lost & Found .....	17
Insurance .....	17

## MANAGER'S DUTIES

- A. Know the eligibility requirements and consequences for use of an ineligible player.
- B. Know the playing rules and inform members of your team.
- C. **At Hazelnut, home teams in the last games of the evening are responsible to pull bases and place into the base box (behind home plate) and lock up.**
- D. Make sure you have enough players at each game. Avoid forfeits. A minimum of eight (8) eligible players are needed to start and finish all games.
- E. Make sure you have a scorebook. The home team's scorebook is official. Scorebooks are provided at the beginning of the spring/summer season for all registered teams
- F. Meet with the umpire at home plate five (5) minutes before the game starts. If you have any questions, ask them. Exchange line-ups with your opponent. Inform your players of the ground rules. The person representing your team at the pre-game meeting will be the "designated manager" for the game.
- G. The "designated manager" must handle any dispute. Do not let one of your players face ejection by arguing over a call.
- H. **You** are responsible for your team's and your spectators' conduct at and around the ballpark. The Parks & Recreation Department will not tolerate abusive language, improper drinking, litter and other irresponsible acts.
- I. Any schedule information, changes or other league information will be sent to you and posted on [www.cityofardenhills.org](http://www.cityofardenhills.org). It is your responsibility to pass this information on to your players.
- J. It is recommended that each team wear shirts of similar color.
- K. It is the manger's responsibility to ensure that the player bench area is occupied only by players and the scorekeeper. **Children** and spectators are **not** to be on the player's bench.
- L. On days involving bad weather, players should call the Adult Sports Hotline at (651) 792.7841 after 3:30 p.m. to learn whether the games will be played.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. Profanity and personal baiting of opponents by players or spectators shall not be permitted. Abusive baiting is defined as remarks referring the nationality, creed, religion or physical characteristics of an individual. The umpire shall eject from the park area anyone violating this rule. Team managers are responsible for the behavior of the players and spectators for their team while the team is on the park premises. **Use of profane or abusive language, taunting, will not be tolerated.** Umpires can and do have the right to eject players for swearing. Umpires will handle any unsportsmanlike acts (ie...swearing, arguing calls, threats, cutting remarks, intentional contact) using the steps below:

1. **First Offense** – Warning (unless the behavior is deemed too severe for the player to continue)
  2. **Second Offense** – Ejection from current game and suspended for the next scheduled game.
- B. If an individual is ejected and does not leave the game and the park area within five (5) minutes, the umpire will stop the game and award a forfeit to the opposing team.
- C. If both teams are involved, the umpire shall call a double forfeit. **No refunds for makeup games will be allowed.**

**NOTE:** Any incident of the above described nature shall be reported by the umpire. The umpire must submit a written description of the incident to the Parks and Recreation Department within 24 hours of the game.

- F. Umpire Decisions – Team managers involved will be the only two individuals who may question the umpire's decision on a given play. The opposing manager may be present, but may not dispute the call. Violation of this rule will result in automatic ejection from the game.
- G. Any player leaving the bench, or their position, to dispute an umpire's decision will be immediately ejected from the game.
- H. Absolutely **no** physical contact with the umpire will be tolerated. This includes traditional "bumping" and excessive expression of words resulting in spitting.
- I. If a player is ejected from any one (1) game for unsportsmanlike behavior, that player will **automatically** be suspended for the next scheduled game.
1. A suspended person may not be present at any site where league games are in progress.
  2. Violation of the above rule will result in an extended period of suspension.
- J. **Alcoholic Beverages** – **There shall be no drinking of beer or alcoholic beverages at the park sites. Violators/teams will be ticketed and could be ejected from the league. Staff will discuss the incident with the manager and make a decision before the next scheduled game.**
- K. At **no** time will players be allowed to drink or have in their possession any alcoholic beverages while in the dugout, coaching bases, playing field or parking lot before, during or after the course of any game
- L. Absolutely **no** drinking of alcoholic beverages in parking lot after games have been completed.
- M. **No glass** beverage containers are allowed at ball fields or on school property.
- N. At **no** time will players be allowed to smoke on the field or in the bench/dugout areas. Tobacco use is prohibited at all parks in Arden Hills.
- O. The City of Arden Hills Parks & Recreation Department "Player Code of Conduct" is as follows:

At no time shall any person lay a hand on, shove, strike, use abusive language or threaten bodily harm to an official, league director, or any employees of the Arden Hills Parks & Recreation Department. Such incidents will require persons involved to be suspended from further league participation until the case is considered by the Protest Committee.

Maximum penalty for such incidents will be suspension from participation in any City sponsored adult athletic league for life. The person in question may appeal his/her case to the Protest Committee. The Protest Procedure must be followed. The Protest Committee will consist of the Head Umpire Scheduler, the Parks and Recreation Manager, Recreation Programmer, and the Public Works Director.

- P. The Arden Hills Parks & Recreation Department is not responsible for injuries sustained by participants in City sponsored activities. The Parks & Recreation Department does not carry or offer any medical insurance; therefore, players should have individual, family, company or team insurance.
- Q. Remember that leagues are available to help you enjoy your leisure time. Your “fun” should not be at the expense of others. Check your language that will be offensive with others. Keep your socializing before and after games to a moderate level of noise. Keep traffic speed and parking appropriate for safety. Please avoid parking on grass at the park with the exception of the hockey rink. Remember, we are neighbors to local residents and need to respect their rights. Clean up litter in your dugout area and post-game meeting area. Respect people and the park!

## ELIGIBILITY

- A. All participants must be at least 18 years old as of April 20<sup>th</sup> of this year.
- B. Players may only play on one team per division per evening.
- C. Pregnant women are discouraged from playing.
- D. Violations:
  - 1. Opposing managers may protest a player's eligibility.
    - a. The team protesting **MUST FIRST** prove their team's eligibility. The umpire will write down the name and birth date of all players in the game for their team. The player in question from the other team will print their name clearly on the back of the umpire's scorecard, write their signature and print their birth date. The umpire will leave the scorecard and list of names from the protesting team in the mailbox at Perry Park for the League Director.
    - b. The protesting team will turn in a \$25.00 cash deposit with a written explanation to the League Director within twenty-four (24) hours. If the player is eligible, the money will be kept. If the player is found to be ineligible, the team will forfeit the protested game.

2. **The League Director reserves the right to check player eligibility at any time during the regular season or playoffs.**
3. Managers will receive verbal and written notice naming any found ineligible players.
4. Ineligible players not removed from the roster will cause the following to occur.
  - a. The League Director shall declare the team's remaining games as forfeits.
  - b. The team shall be dropped from the league immediately.
5. Tournament protests for rules and eligibility will be handled according to MRPA/USSSA procedures.
6. Violation of eligibility rules may result in the expulsion of the player(s), manager and/or team and/or forfeiture of games played or to be played.

## ROSTERS

- A. Preliminary rosters must be submitted to register a team. Preliminary rosters must list:
  1. Player's name
  2. Legal playing address
  3. Home phone
  4. Signature of player
- B. Preliminary rosters must be turned in no later than Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm. Team rosters must be completed in its entirety with signatures of all players, including names, addresses, and phone numbers. If the team roster is not turned in before the 2<sup>nd</sup> game, every game without a roster, all players will be considered ineligible and in jeopardy against eligibility protests.
- C. Final rosters are due by May 18, 2015. All changes to your roster must be completed by this date. No additions will be accepted after this date.
- D. Roster limits are 20 players. Co-Rec teams may have up to ten men and up to ten women on their roster.

## PLAYING RULES

All playing rules listed below will govern league play. In the event that a situation is not listed below, it will default to the USSSA rules.

### *The Playing Field*

- A. The pitching distance is 50 feet.
- B. The bases are set at 70 feet.

- C. In Co-Rec, no infielder (except the pitcher) shall be in front of the base paths until the ball is hit.
- D. Pre-game warm-ups are not allowed on the infield. Teams can play catch, but no infield or batting practice will be tolerated.
- E. Batting practice must be in an area that does not endanger or inhibit other groups using the park facilities.
- F. The home team will use the bench on the first base line.
- G. Perry Park Berm Rule (PERRY #3 fencing should eliminate this rule)
  - 1. Any fair, untouched ball hit on the fly over an outfield berm will be ruled an **automatic home run.**
  - 2. A fair ball that hits the ground before or on top of any berm and proceeds to bounce over the berm will be ruled an **automatic ground rule double.**
  - 3. Any fair touched/untouched ball that rolls in any outfield and does not go over any berm on the fly or on the bounce will be considered "**in play.**"
- H. Hazelnut Park Rule
  - 1. If ball hits the ground and bounces over an outfield fence, it will be considered an automatic ground rule double.
  - 2. If a ball flies over the fence, it will be a homerun.

### ***Equipment***

- 1. 2015 Bat Rule: USSSA has now implemented rules for testing bats before a manufacturer can license it's bats for use in USSSA play. Under these rules, bats will no longer be licensed for USSSA play if they can significantly improve beyond the BPF standard with use, abuse or damage. Beginning back in the fall of 2011, engineering standard bats carried a new and very prominent USSSA mark. For all Minnesota USSSA adult softball leagues – all bats must have the new USSSA stamp of approval in order to be used in any league play.

**Legal Bats:** All bats used in recreational leagues and tournament play must have the "new" USSSA logo on its tapered end (see image below). The bat may be made of hard wood of one piece, or laminated from sections of hard wood bonded together with adhesive in such a way that the grain directions of all the pieces are essentially parallel to the length of the bat. The bat may also be made of aluminum or other metals, fiberglass, graphite or composite materials.



For more information on certified bats visit USSSA at [www.ussa.com](http://www.ussa.com).

- A. Official Ball. One new ball will be supplied at the field for each game by the home team. The visitor team will supply one good condition back up ball. (USSSA approved) At the end of the game, the umpire will give the best ball to the home team and the second ball to the visitor team. Women's league will use the 11" ball, Men's will use the 12" ball and Co-Rec will use a 12" ball when the men hit and an 11" ball when the women hit.
- B. Bases. Jack Corbett Hollywood style bases are used requiring base running skills to accommodate a stationary base.
- C. Shoes. Metal spikes are illegal.
- D. Uniforms. Teams are requested to have matching colored shirts. Teams advancing to USSSA region or state tournaments must have similar colored shirts. All participants must wear shirts, shoes and pants. Shorts are permitted.
- E. Bat rings or "donuts" are not allowed.
- F. All other equipment not sanctioned by the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) is not allowed.
- G. **Home team of the last game of the evening at Hazelnut Park is responsible to pull the bases, and put the bases into the base box (behind the backstop).**

### *The Game*

- A. Home team is listed first on the schedule. For end of the year playoffs, the home team will be determined by regular season final seedings.
- B. An official game shall consist of seven innings.
- C. No new inning of each game will begin after 55 minutes of play. (Time limits will not be waived except for the championship game of the playoffs.) In case of rain or darkness, an official game is after 4 innings are completed or 3½ if the home team is in the lead. **If the game is not official when it is stopped due to weather or darkness, the game will be replayed in its entirety.**
- D. Games can end in a tie. Extra innings will be played only if there is still time left on the clock. This rule is in effect, even if the field is vacant directly after the tied game. For the Championship Playoff Game - If game is tied, extra innings will be played until the game is decided. If the game cannot be finished due to darkness or park closing, the two teams will be considered co-champions and a second award will be ordered.
- E. Game will be official if one team is ahead by 10 runs or more after five (5) innings or four and a half innings, if the home team is ahead. We will follow the flip flop rule – which would go into effect after four (4) innings if the visiting team is up by 10 runs or more. Consult the USSSA rule book for more info.
- F. Homerun Rule – Please note that the USSSA homerun rule in your 2015 USSSA Rule Book (found online at [www.ussa.com](http://www.ussa.com)) will not be in effect for any Arden Hills Parks and Recreation Adult Softball Leagues. The rule applies on fields with 300 ft. fences only. However, the City of Arden Hills will have a **homerun limit** of three (3) on ALL PERRY PARK FIELDS, #1, #2, #3. After 3 homeruns have been hit by one team, the next

homerun to be hit will be considered an out. THERE WILL BE NO HOMERUN LIMIT AT HAZELNUT. *The player or team that hits a home run must retrieve the softball hit outside of the fence and return them to play as quickly as possible.* To save time, players are NOT required to round the bases (optional).

- G. Start times may be as early as 6:00 p.m. and as late as 9:00 p.m.
- H. Forfeit Times – A five (5) minute grace period is allowed for all games. Those five (5) minutes comes off the game time. A forfeit will be recorded as a 7-0 score.
- I. A double first base is used for league play. Any batted ball hitting a white portion is fair and any batted ball hitting the orange portion is foul. On the initial throw to first base the batter-runner must touch the orange portion of the base. The defensive player must touch the white portion of the base. This is in effect only on the initial play at first base and does not include:
  - 1. Returning to the base after over running
  - 2. Running on a base hit to the outfield (runner may touch white or orange portion).
  - 3. Re-tag to advance on a fly ball.

Exceptions: The defense and batter runner can use either portion when an errant or missed throw pulls the defensive player into foul ground.

If the batter-base runner is called safe for the initial play at first base but missed the orange base, the defensive team can appeal. The defensive team must appeal a runner missing the orange base before the umpire signals time out.

- J. The designated manager is the person meeting with the umpire prior to the start of the game. Any discussions with the umpire should only involve the designated manager.
- K. A three-ball, two-strike count with a courtesy foul will be used in all leagues.
- L. For the safety of all players, a runner must slide or avoid contact on all close plays at any base except for first. Defensive players cannot block the base/plate without having the ball. If this happens, obstruction can be called on the defensive player. If a runner does not slide or make a deliberate attempt to get out of the way, it will be an automatic out and/or they will be called for interference. It will be the umpire's judgment to decide whether the outcome of the play resulted in interference.
- M. For Co-Rec League, all games must start on time if you have four (4) men and four (4) women in attendance. **(Managers do not have the right to waive the rule.)**
- N. A pitched ball must have an arc of three (3) feet to ten (10) feet maximum.
- O. No bunting allowed.
- P. For Co-Rec, men and women must alternate in the batting order.
- Q. In Co-Rec, if a man is walked, the next batter has the option to bat or walk. The man is awarded second base whether the woman chooses to walk or bat.
- R. Unlimited batting order – bat 10 or any number over 10 you wish. You may decrease the number you bat once you start.

### ***The Players and Substitutes***

- A. A legal game may be played with eight players. The ninth and tenth players may be added at any time. In Co-Rec, the ninth player may be added at any time, if a woman; and the tenth player may also be added at any time. If a team begins with ten players, but must drop to nine (Co-Rec must drop to eight if the player dropping out is female) that player's spot in the batting order may be appealed as an out. **THE OPPOSING MANAGER CAN WAIVE THIS RULE** (unless it is due to an ejection). In addition, **THE OPPOSING MANAGER CAN WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT MORE MEN CANNOT PLAY IN THE FIELD** if a player drops out. A team must have ten players for the entire game during the post-season.
- B. Men can only participate on Men's and Co-Rec teams. Women can only participate on Women's or Co-Rec teams.
- C. A player may re-enter the game freely after remaining on the bench for one complete inning
- D. A player must bat in the original batting order.
- E. Players and coaches only on the bench. Players are not to be outside of the coaches boxes or the designated dugout (bench) area if not a batter, base runner, on-deck batter, or one of the ten players on defense.
- F. A courtesy runner may be used at anytime. The courtesy runner is the player who made the last recorded out (man for a man, woman for a woman).
- G. Unlimited defensive substitution for anyone in the batting order. If you bat 12 – any of the 12 may play in the field at any time during the game.

### ***Batting***

- A. Batting line-up length may be 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 or continuous. Co-Rec teams may bat an odd-numbered line up but must have more women than men. Any drop in the original batting line-up length may result in an appealed out. **THE OPPOSING MANAGER CAN WAIVE THIS RULE** (unless due to ejection). There is no automatic forfeiture unless a team drops from eight to seven players. Teams must announce their batting line-up length to the opposing team and umpire at the beginning of the game. Any of (and only) the players listed in the batting line-up may play the ten defensive positions. If a team wants to use non-rostered players, they need to inform the umpire and the opposing manager at the start of the game. If the opposing manager allows them to do this, then the game cannot be protested later, due to ineligible players playing.
  - 1. Co-Rec teams must alternate male-female in batting order. They may play any of the ten positions in the field, remaining at the defensive position in which they began the inning except for pitching changes and substitutions. A “floating” batting order for either men or women in the batting order may be used IF both teams agree before the game.
  - 2. Co-Rec teams must field an equal number of men and women, or in the case of odd numbers, more women. **THE OPPOSING MANAGER CAN WAIVE THIS RULE.**

### *Umpires*

- A. If there is a no show or late umpire, please let the park attendant know immediately. They will attempt to call the umpire scheduler to find a substitute. Both managers should then agree to one of the following:
1. Play the game with a substitute umpire agreed upon by both teams. The game result would stand. No rule protests will be allowed. Ask another umpire or park attendant for score card. Turn in score card to the Perry Park mailbox. Report name and address of substitute umpire for payment.
  2. Have the game rescheduled at a later date by the Arden Hills Parks and Recreation Department.

Start the game immediately following your decision in order to keep games on schedule. Once an umpire arrives, they will take over from the substitute.

- B. If there is a no show or late umpire, it does not matter if one or both teams do not have enough players to start the game. Only the umpire assigned or substitute to that field for that game can call a forfeit due to a team not having enough players.

### *Scoring*

Home team is responsible for keeping the official scorebook. This is important when protests occur, when score disputes arise, or when batting line-ups are questioned. Visiting teams are advised to keep a scorebook as well.

## **BEHAVIOR**

- A. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated. Team members are responsible for their conduct along with their families, friends and other fans. Respect yourself and others. Excessive abuse, determined by the umpire, by a team's spectators can be viewed as a violation of sportsmanship. An umpire has the authority to ask that a team attempt to control these non-playing individuals and will call a forfeit if necessary.
- B. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed at Perry Park. The umpire has the authority to:
1. Require a player(s) to stop drinking alcoholic beverages.
  2. Eject a player(s) who is intoxicated and a hazard to themselves or others.
- C. Casual profanity is prohibited. When a player does use profanity the team is warned with further occurrence by any player resulting in game ejections. The umpire may choose to eject someone without warning depending on the situation.
- D. Alcoholic beverages and smoking are not allowed in the city parks. At no time will players be allowed to drink or have in their possession any alcoholic beverages while in the dugout, coaching bases, playing field or parking lot before, during or after any game. Teams ticketed by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department could be automatically disbanded

from the league, pending a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Manager. No refunds will be given.

- E. The City of Arden Hills parks are designated tobacco free therefore, smoking is not allowed in the park. At no time will players be allowed to smoke on the field or in the bench/dugout areas. Umpires can enforce this rule.
- F. Teams who repeatedly display unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from the league and forfeit their league fees. The umpire may eject teams or players who harass umpires or other players, before, during or after games.
- G. If someone is ejected from a game, the individual is required to give the umpire their name. Refusal by a manager or player to give proper names of other player or refusal by a player to give information regarding himself/herself, will result in an immediate suspension plus the game becomes an immediate forfeit.

## SAFETY

- A. Everyone at the park must be aware of the hazards associated with the game of softball. Errant throws and foul balls can endanger those in and around the ball fields
- B. Warning tracks are not utilized. Players must use extreme caution when approaching fences. Other players should be communicating how far from the fence a teammate is as they approach the fence. This applies to outfield and infield fencing as well as the dugout area.
- C. Jack Corbett Hollywood style bases are used requiring base running skills to accommodate a stationary base.
- D. A double first base is used for league play. See under The Playing Rules "The Game".
- E. A player who is bleeding or has an open wound shall be prohibited from participating until the bleeding is stopped and the wound is covered. If treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. If excessive time is involved, the re-entry rule would apply. **All teams are encouraged to have a First Aid Kit with them during each game.**

## PROTESTS

A protested game can result when there is a difference of opinion on the field between the protesting team and the umpire regarding the application or interpretation of Official Printed Playing Rules.

Umpire's judgment decisions may not be appealed or protested on grounds that he/she was not correct regarding: balls and strikes, that a batted ball was fair or foul, that a base runner was safe or out or when a game is called for darkness, rain and/or time.

### ***Rule Protest Procedure***

- A. A team may protest a rule infraction, but not a judgment call.
  - 1. Teams wishing to protest a rule infraction must notify the umpire before the next pitch.

2. The umpire will then notify the other manager of the protest and write down on the scorecard the circumstances of the protest and the current status of the game (score, inning, outs, base runners, etc).
3. **The protest must be received in writing at the Parks and Recreation office within twenty-four (24) hours after the game, accompanied by a \$25.00 cash deposit.** The protest must include:
  - a. Date, time and place of the game
  - b. Name of umpire
  - c. The rule and section of the official rule or local league rules which protest is being filed.
  - d. The decision and/or conditions surrounding the cause for protest.
  - e. All essential facts involved in the matter of the protest.
4. The League Director will then rule on the protest and consult with the Head Umpire. If the protest is upheld, the protested game will be replayed from the point of infraction and the \$25.00 cash deposit will be returned. If the protest is denied, the game will stand as played and the protesting team will forfeit their \$25.00 cash deposit.

#### ***Eligibility Protest Procedure***

- A. A team may protest the eligibility of another team's player(s).
  1. Teams wishing to protest a player's eligibility must notify the umpire before the end of the game.
  2. The umpire will then notify the other manager of the protest.
  3. The team protesting **MUST FIRST** prove their team's eligibility. The umpire will write down the name and birth date of all players in the game for their team. The player in question from the other team will print their name clearly on the back of the umpire's scorecard, write their signature and print their birth date. The umpire will leave the scorecard and list of names from the protesting team in the mailbox at Perry Park for the League Director
  4. Protests filed after the completion of the game or after the player has left the softball complex will not be allowed.
  5. The protest must be received in writing of the Parks and Recreation office within twenty-four (24) hours after the game accompanied by a \$25.00 cash deposit. The written protest must include:
    - a. Date, time and place of game.
    - b. Name of umpire
    - c. All essential facts involved in the matter of the protest.

6. The League Director will then rule on the protest and may consult with the Head Umpire. If the protest is upheld, the protested game will be a forfeit for the team with the violation and the \$25.00 cash deposit will be returned to the protesting team. If the protest is denied, the game will stand as played and the protesting team will forfeit their \$25.00 cash deposit.

## **PARK REGULATIONS**

- A. All Arden Hills parks close at 10:30 p.m. All park users will need to be out of the park by 10:30 p.m. Lights will be turned off immediately following the last game.
- B. Please, no glass bottles. Inform your team members and spectators.
- C. No alcohol is allowed on any park property.
- D. Please use trash containers to keep the parks clean and recycling containers for cans only.
- E. Park in the lots provided. Overflow parking is located in the hockey rink. Please do **NOT** park on grass areas of the park.
- F. The City of Arden Hills is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## **TEAM DISBANDMENT**

- A. Cancellation of a team after prior to the start of the season will constitute a forfeit of all fees paid prior to this deadline date.
- B. Absolutely **NO** refund of team fees will be made regardless of disbandment reason.
- C. In the event a team disbands before the schedule is complete, all remaining games will be credited to their scheduled opponents.
- D. Absolutely **NO** refund of team fees will be made if team disbands after start of season.

## **WEATHER POLICY**

- A. In the event of rain, wet fields or inclement weather, call the Adult Sports Hotline at (651) 792-7841 for the status of games. That decision will be made no earlier than 3:30 p.m. and no later than 4:00 p.m. The message will be updated on the hotline by 3:30 p.m. and on questionable days, may ask that you call back at 4:00 p.m. for the final decision. Should weather conditions change, the umpire will make a decision on site and the hotline will be updated as soon as possible. If the message on weather hotline has not been updated, go to your designated field site.

- B. If the game cannot begin within 15 minutes of its stated game time, the game is postponed, and all succeeding games are postponed as well.
- C. If the storm warning sirens sound at 6:00 p.m. or later, all games for that evening are postponed immediately.
  - 1. Scores of official games will stand.
  - 2. Discontinued games that are stopped before they are official will be made up in their entirety.
- D. In all leagues, there are two (2) weeks at the end of the season for make-up games. If more dates are needed, alternate evenings will be used to accommodate games. There will be no refunds for games not made up.
- E. Under no circumstances will a game be rescheduled due to a team, or teams' request.

## **STANDINGS & AWARDS**

- A. Final standings are based on:
  - 1. Points earned. (Win = 2 points, Tie = 1 point, Loss = 0 points)
  - 2. If tied, head-to-head record between tied teams.
  - 3. If still tied, fewest runs allowed in games between tied teams.
  - 4. If still tied, fewest runs allowed entire season with all teams.
  - 5. If still tied for first place, a coin toss will be held.
- B. The following awards will be given to the league champion:
  - 1. The regular season champion gets to choose one award from the following list:
    - 1. Tournament Berth
    - 2. Championship shirts
    - 3. \$100 Refund Check or credit toward Fall Softball League
  - 2. The playoff champion gets to choose one award from the following list (Fall does not have playoffs):
    - 1. Tournament Berth
    - 2. \$75.00 Refund Check or credit toward Fall Softball League

## **POST-SEASON PLAY**

- A. Teams interested in playing their respective region or state tournament must pay the entry fee to Parks & Recreation by the date indicated on the timeline.
- B. Any team interested in playing in their region/state tournament must pay the entry fee of \$160.00 by the date indicated on the timeline. The regular season champions in each league will be refunded \$160.00 if they had registered for the region/state tournament.

- C. A team that purchases a berth to a region/state tournament and forfeits will be banned from post-season play the following season.

Tournament Date	Deadline	Tournaments	Location
August 1-3	July 16	Men's Class "E" State	Blaine
August 8-10	July 23	Men's "D" Recreational State	Brooklyn Park
August 8-10	July 23	Men's "D" Competitive State	Blaine
August 15- 17	July 23	CoRec "D" State	Edina

## INTER-LEAGUE MOVEMENT OF TEAMS

- A. Arden Hills Parks & Recreation reserves the right to move league champions to a higher division if it becomes obvious from game scores and championships that they should be in a higher division. The decision will be made by the League Director.

## LOST AND FOUND

- A. Any item found at Perry Park should be turned into the park attendant at the picnic pavilion. Individuals who have lost an item should inquire at the picnic pavilion during league day. Claimants will be asked to describe the lost item in detail. The City of Arden Hills will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. This includes items that may have been turned in to the lost and found.

## INSURANCE/LIABILITY

- A. Be aware that there are inherent risks to playing the game of softball. Injuries may occur due to collisions with other players, being struck by a ball or bat, sliding into a base, running into a fence, etc. The City of Arden Hill does not provide insurance for the participants of our adult softball leagues. Each player as a result of participation in the leagues assumes all liability and risk of injury. It is strongly suggested that each player obtain medical and liability insurance prior to participating in the league. Team insurance policies are available through the USSSA. Information is available on the national website [www.ussa.com](http://www.ussa.com).
- B. Waiver of Liability: The manager and all players and substitutes understand that participation in this activity is completely voluntary. The manager, player or substitute agree that the City of Arden Hills shall not be liable for any claims, injuries, damages, of whatever nature, incurred by the participant due to the negligence of the City, its agents or employees, arising out of, or connected with, the activity. On behalf of himself/herself the manager, participant or substitute expressly releases and discharges the City, its agents or employees, from any such claims, injuries or damages.
- C. Data Privacy: As a manager, player or substitute, I understand that this information will be made available only to program staff, the City's insurer and attorney and to the other staff connected with the program for purposes of administering the activity. Private data is available to you, but not to the public. Although you are not legally required to disclose the information requested, failure to do so will prevent you from participating in this program.